



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Mark Finchem (R-11)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Legislative Rural Caucus Announces Leadership for 2019 Session

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – The Legislative Rural Caucus today announced leadership changes for the 2019 legislative session. Representative Mark Finchem (R-11) was elected chairman, and Representative Timothy Dunn (R-13) was elected vice chairman.

The Legislative Rural Caucus is a bipartisan, bicameral group of legislators who meet weekly to discuss common challenges for rural communities that often conflict with urban needs and examine legislation that is intended to solve those challenges.

“While water supply is on everyone’s mind, there are many other challenges that rural Arizona faces,” said Representative Finchem. **“This year members have voiced support for three major issues including: internet service infrastructure to increase availability, Arizona Department of Transportation infrastructure (roadway repair and maintenance), and employment opportunities. It is interesting to note that all three of these priorities are related to infrastructure, education, and workforce availability.”**

As the session progresses, the Legislative Rural Caucus will watch bills that come forward that might diminish the ability of rural counties to provide vital services to those who live outside of the city centers of Phoenix, Tucson, and Flagstaff. Members all recognize that there is an untapped resource in the rural communities, which with the right infrastructure would bloom with prosperity and contribute even more to the quality of life for all Arizonans and visitors.

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